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A.—(a) No; the Superintendent granted casual leave to nineteen employees of the Press in continuation of the Easter holidays to go to Ootacamund.

(b) No; leave has not been granted or refused with reference to membership of any association.

(c) There are no such cases.

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—" Does the hon. the Home Member realize the seriousness of the mistake of leaving it to the Superintendent's discretion to give leave or no leave on certificates granted by longstanding registered medical practitioners, and is he aware that a certain employee of the Press died in the Press premises due to the indiscretion of the Superintendent ? Is this discretion given to the Superintendents of all other departments ? A patient suffering from typhoid fever . . . . ."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" I am afraid the hon. Member is giving information."

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—" I ask the hon. the Home Member whether he is aware of the seriousness of the mistake committed by the Government in giving discretion to the Superintendent in the matter of giving leave or no leave on medical certificates ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" I do not think any mistake has been made at all."

Application of rule 14 of the Statutory Rules by Mr. Gilbert in the case of dismissals and suspensions in the Government Press.

* 759-B Q.—Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the procedure as to the enquiry contemplated in rule 14 of the Statutory Rules has been strictly followed or not by Mr. Gilbert, the Superintendent, Government Press, in cases of dismissals, suspensions, reductions and removals ;

(b) if the answer be in the affirmative, the number of cases in which the enquiry under rule 14 of the Statutory Rules was held ;

(c) if the answer be in the negative, those cases in which no enquiry was held and the reasons for the same ; and

(d) in how many cases, in which no enquiry was held, appeals against the orders of the Superintendent were allowed and in how many they were rejected ?

A.—(a), (b), (c) & (d) Whenever an enquiry is necessary under rule 14 of the Statutory Rules, there is an appeal to Government against the punishment awarded. Any person aggrieved has therefore an opportunity of bringing the matter before Government and Government consider that no practical benefit would result from the labour necessary now to obtain the information asked for.

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" With reference to clause (d) of the question, may I know why the Government have given no answer, or what the answer is ? The question is ' in how many cases in which no enquiry was held, appeals against the orders of the Superintendent were allowed and in how many they were rejected ? ' The answer does not say anything about the particular facts asked for in clause (d). May I ask for the information, Sir ? "

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The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" I have stated the general principle. When cases come before the Government, we examine them. There have been cases in which we have passed orders against the decision of the Superintendent of the Government Press."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" The question, Sir, is : 'In how many cases in which no enquiry was held, appeals against the orders of the Superintendent were allowed and in how many they were rejected ?' That question, you will see, is not at all answered in the answer which is consolidated for all the clauses. I am asking whether the Government can now give or whether they want notice for supplying the information as regards the number of cases in which appeals were allowed and the number in which the appeals were rejected ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" If notice is given, I shall certainly supply the information."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" May I ask with regard to the answer to clause (a) of the question, the reason why no answer has been given at all ? The question is 'whether the procedure as to the enquiry contemplated in rule 14 of the Statutory Rules has been strictly followed . . . . in cases of dismissals, suspensions, reductions and removals.' The answer refers to the appeal to the Government There is no answer to the specific question of my hon. Friend from the City as to whether as a matter of fact this procedure is followed by Mr. Gilbert before he takes action in regard to dismissal, suspension, reduction or removal. May I know whether the Government can give the information now or whether they want notice ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" I can give the information now. The procedure is followed."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" In every case ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" Yes."

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—" May I know if any appeal has been received by the hon. the Home Member stating that the procedure was not followed and whether an enquiry was held into such an appeal on that particular issue ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" No, Sir."

Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR :—" May I know how many appeals have been filed during the last year ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" Notice, Sir."

Dismissals and suspensions by Mr. Gilbert as Superintendent, Government Press.

* 759-C Q.—Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased—

(i) to furnish a comparative statement showing

(a) the dismissals, suspensions, removals and reductions made by the present Superintendent, Mr. Gilbert, during his period as Superintendent, and by the former Superintendent, Mr. Fisher, and by Mr. Green during his acting period as Superintendent ;